

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 520
By Wilder

A RESOLUTION to honor Senator Milton H. Hamilton, Jr. for his many years of outstanding service to Tennessee as a member of the General Assembly.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this body should honor those colleagues who during their tenure in the General Assembly have performed their elected duties with remarkable dexterity and unprecedented devotion, and whose professionalism and competence will serve as a benchmark for future legislatures; and

WHEREAS, Senator Milton H. Hamilton, Jr., has been a great presence on Capitol Hill for thirty-two years; his illustrious legislative career will come to an end at the adjournment of the 1996 session of the Ninety-Ninth General Assembly as he answers the tantalizing call of retirement; and

WHEREAS, Milton Hamilton began his meritorious service in the House of Representatives in 1965, succeeding his father, and was elected to the Senate in 1969, where he has distinguished himself as a highly respected leader and an effective public servant; and

WHEREAS, as a senior member of this esteemed Body, Senator Hamilton has been an astute and eager participant in the legislative process while upholding the duties of Senate Majority Leader in the 90th through the 94th General Assemblies, Senate Floor Leader and elected leader of the new Senate Democratic Caucus in 1987, and Deputy Speaker for the 97th through the 99th General Assemblies; and

WHEREAS, serving Benton, Dyer, Henry, Lake, Obion, and Weakley counties with integrity and probity, Senator Hamilton has been the distinguished recipient of several

outstanding legislator awards, of which even a brief list is inspiring; he was the distinguished recipient of the Tennessee Nursing Association's "Legislator of the Year Award" in 1992, the Tennessee Hospital Association's "Community Service Award" in 1992, the Tennessee Human Resource Agencies' "Senator of the Year Award" in 1994, and the Tennessee Development Districts' "Legislator of the Year Award", in 1994 and 1996; and

WHEREAS, Milton Hamilton, Jr., was born in Community Pride, Tennessee, and is a lifelong resident of Obion County; he was educated in the public schools of Obion County, attended Memphis State University and graduated from Murray State University, where he was honored as a distinguished military student; he has been the recipient of the University's "Distinguished Alumni Award"; and

WHEREAS, ever one to mantle the shoulder of civic responsibility, Senator Hamilton is a member of the Union City and Obion County Chamber of Commerce, the Rotary Club, the Loyal Order of the Moose, the American Legion Post 20-Union City; he also lends his time and talents to perpetuate the public good as a Mason and as a member of Knights Templar and Shrine, Al Chymia-Memphis; and

WHEREAS, Senator Hamilton has served with alacrity and acuity as a board member of the First State Bank, and is a former member of the Board of Trustees of the Southern College of Optometry in Memphis and the Union City School Board; and

WHEREAS, Senator Hamilton was honored in 1992 by The University of Tennessee at Martin as the recipient of "The Distinguished Service Award" and by the Obion County Leadership Group as recipient of "The Pride of Tennessee Award", accolades both befitting this conscientious legislator and stellar public servant; and

WHEREAS, the 24th Senatorial District has been well represented by this prominent legislator as he has served various councils and committees with peerless distinction: the Senate Calendar and Rules Committee, which he served as Chairman; the General Welfare Committee; the Senate Finance, Ways and Means Committee; the Environment, Conservation and Tourism Committee; the Education Oversight Committee; the Special Committee on

Classification and Compensation; the Business Tax Study Committee; and the Reelfoot Lake Task Force Committee; and

WHEREAS, Senator Hamilton will long be remembered as an advocate of and crusader for quality health care, because of his meritorious service as Chairman of the Special Joint Committee on Health Care Costs and Chairman of the Joint Select Committee on TennCare Oversight; and

WHEREAS, his many accomplishments aside, Senator Hamilton is most appreciative of the love and support he shares with his wife, Dale White Hamilton, and their three children and five grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, for thirty-two years, Senator Hamilton has been a staple figure on Capitol Hill, a gentleman whose talent and energy will seldom be equaled and, without question, he will be greatly missed; and

WHEREAS, it is now highly appropriate that the friends and colleagues of this outstanding public servant should honor him and recognize his numerous accomplishments and contributions to our great state; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we express our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to Senator Milton Hamilton, Jr., for his innumerable services to Tennessee, and we honor him for his distinguished career as a member of this General Assembly.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.